

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



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Date Issued: August 15, 2012	Time: 4:00 p.m.

UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 39
EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-37-12

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 39 closes set gillnetting in all waters of the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet on Thursday, August 16, 2012 from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

The Little Susitna River coho salmon sustainable escapement goal (SEG) is 10,100–17,700 fish. Through August 14, approximately 61% of the run has historically passed upstream of the weir, which is located at river mile 32.5. The weir count through August 14, 2012 was 2,587 fish. Run timing can be highly variable for coho salmon; however, at this time, even based on a record late run-timing model, the SEG is projected to not be met.

In addition, due to below average runs of coho salmon in Knik Arm drainages, the Division of Sport Fish has issued an emergency order closing sport fishing for coho salmon in all waters of the Knik Arm Management Area, excluding the Eklutna Tailrace, beginning at 12:01 a.m. Friday, August 17, 2012.

Therefore, it is prudent to close the commercial set gillnet fishery in all waters of the Northern District to conserve coho salmon.

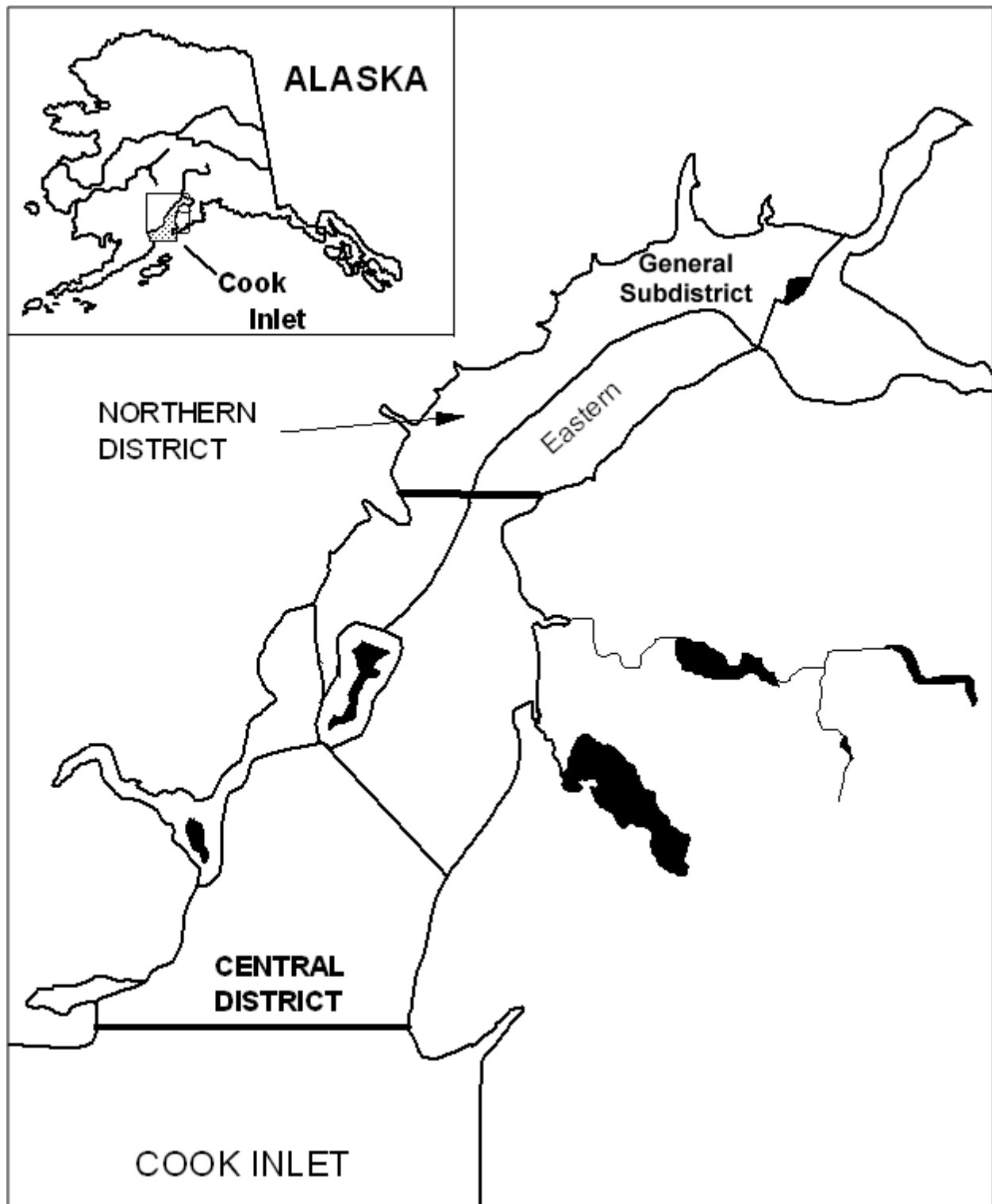


Figure 1. Map of Northern District commercial fishing subdistricts.